

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method carried out by a processor, comprising:
  - extracting a phrase from a training corpus;
  - calculating a probability that the phrase is mapped to a semantic tag from a list of unordered semantic tags;
  - mapping the phrase to the semantic tag with the highest mapping probability; and
  - generating a mapping table containing the phrase and its corresponding semantic tag,  
wherein a weak annotation between the phrase and the semantic tag is provided to the processor.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the statistical procedure comprises an expectation maximization algorithm.
5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising storing the mapping table of performed mappings between a candidate semantic tag and a phrase in form of a mapping table in order to derive a grammar being applicable to unknown sentences or unknown phrases.
6. (Currently Amended) A processor executing a computer program product to:
  - calculate a mapping probability that a semantic tag of a set of unordered candidate semantic tags is assigned to a phrase, wherein the calculation of the mapping probability is performed by means of a statistical procedure based on a set of phrases constituting a corpus of sentences, each of the phrases having assigned a set of candidate semantic tags; and
  - generate a mapping table from the performed mapping,

wherein a weak annotation between the phrase and the semantic tag is provided to the processor.

7. (Previously Presented) The processor according to claim 6, wherein the program product is further executed to, for each phrase, calculate a set of mapping probabilities, providing the probability for each semantic tag of the set of candidate semantic tags being assigned to the phrase.

8. (Previously Presented) The processor according to claim 7, wherein the program product is further executed to determine one semantic tag of the set of candidate semantic tags having the highest mapping probability of the set of mapping probabilities and mapping the one semantic tag to the phrase.

9. (Previously Presented) The processor according to claim 6, wherein the program product comprises an expectation maximization algorithm.

10. (Previously Presented) The processor according to claim 8, wherein the program product is further executed to store the mapping table of performed mappings between a semantic tag and a phrase or a sequence of phrases in form of a mapping table in order to derive a grammar being applicable to unknown sentences or unknown phrases or unknown sequences of phrases.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for mapping a semantic tag to a phrase of a comprising:

a processor calculating a mapping probability that a semantic tag of a set of unordered candidate semantic tags is assigned to a phrase, wherein the calculation of the mapping probability is performed by means of a statistical procedure based on a set of phrases constituting a corpus of sentences, each of the phrases having assigned a set of unordered candidate semantic tags,

wherein the processor further generates a mapping table from the performed mapping,

wherein a weak annotation between the phrase and the semantic tag is provided to the processor.

12. (Original) The system according to claim 11, for each phrase further comprising calculating a set of mapping probabilities, providing the probability for each semantic tag of the set of candidate semantic tags being assigned to the phrase.

13. (Original) The system according to claim 12, further comprising determining one semantic tag of the set of candidate semantic tags having the highest mapping probability of the set of mapping probabilities and mapping the one semantic tag to the phrase.

14. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 11, wherein the statistical procedure comprises an expectation maximization algorithm.

15. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 13, further comprising means for storing the mapping table of performed mappings between a semantic tag and a phrase or a sequence of phrases in form of a mapping table in order to derive a grammar being applicable to unknown sentences or unknown phrases or unknown sequences of phrases.

16. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the weak annotation is one of a set of candidate semantic tags and an inclusion/exclusion list.

17. (New) The processor according to claim 6, wherein the weak annotation is one of a set of candidate semantic tags and an inclusion/exclusion list

18. (New) The system according to claim 11, wherein the weak annotation is one of a set of candidate semantic tags and an inclusion/exclusion list